

Simple Sentence or Compound Sentence?

16a. A **simple sentence** contains one independent clause and no subordinate clauses.

16b. A **compound sentence** contains two or more independent clauses and no subordinate clauses.

Do not confuse a compound sentence with a simple sentence that contains a compound subject, a compound verb, or both.

SIMPLE SENTENCE ^S **Coach Mendes** and her ^S **team** [✓] **lost** the first game of the double-header but [✓] **won** the second. [one independent clause with a compound subject and a compound verb]

COMPOUND SENTENCE ^S **Sammi can play** several instruments, but the ^S **banjo** [✓] **is** her favorite. [two independent clauses]

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, draw one line under each subject and two lines under each verb. Then, on the line provided, identify the sentence by writing *S* for *simple* or *Cd* for *compound*.

Example *S* 1. David Attenborough has studied many unusual creatures and has written about their unique habitats and behaviors.

1. I hurried over to Michael's house and met Rafiq on the way.
2. The lightning struck the radio towers on the hill several times but did not damage them.
3. The blinking light grew dim, and then it flashed several times.
4. The gulls circle the fishing boat; they are hoping for a quick meal.
5. The purple lantana and the red salvia look pretty and attract both bees and butterflies.
6. After school I feed the rabbits, and Kris looks after the guinea pigs.
7. In the evening the Korean restaurant opens and welcomes crowds of hungry diners.
8. Patty and Carla are throwing Hilton a surprise party in their big backyard sometime next weekend.
9. The crab scuttled quickly into the water, for it saw a heron nearby.
10. I left, but Marcy stayed.